

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Attorney Docket No. 40736

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

MCGRATH, *et. al.*

Application No. 09/801,831

Filed: March 9, 2001

For: **Automated Apparatus Including a  
Robotic Arm for Loading Samples  
into Wells for First Dimension  
Electrophoresis Separation**

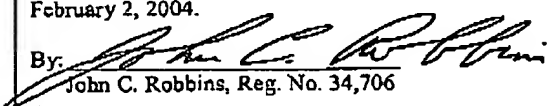
Confirmation No. 5700

Art Unit: 1753

Examiner: DIAMOND, Alan D.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and  
Trademark Office fax number 703-872-9306 on  
February 2, 2004.

By:

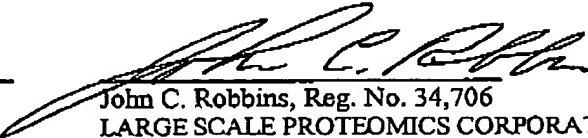
  
John C. Robbins, Reg. No. 34,706Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

Applicants hereby petitions for a two month extension of time, thereby  
extending the response period from December 25, 2003 to February 25, 2004, in order  
to file a Response to Office Action in the above-identified patent application.  
Payment of the required fees is authorized on a separate Fee Transmittal Sheet.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Feb. 2, 2004  
John C. Robbins, Reg. No. 34,706  
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